

Press Release

Town of Drayton Valley
January 29, 2009

The Town of Drayton Valley has been pursuing the creation of a Bio-Mile Industrial Park. This industrial park will offer sustainable industry to the community and add stimulus to our economy through new jobs and new revenue creation.

The first phase of the Bio-Mile Industrial park has come to reality through the collaboration of the Town of Drayton Valley, Tekle Technical Services, the Province of Alberta, and Weyerhaeuser.

The Province of Alberta has granted the Town of Drayton Valley \$4.5 million through the Community Development Trust fund. This funding is allocated for Tekle Technical Services to establish a fibremat research and development plant in the Town of Drayton Valley.

Moe Hamdon, Mayor for the Town of Drayton Valley, is pleased that the Provincial government has supported this project as well as the Town's vision of creating an Integrated Bio Industrial Park. "Our vision is to create a culture of innovation or a Knowledge Based Bio Economy. The creation of the Bio-Mile will strengthen our community and long term economic sustainability. It is very exciting that TTS has chosen Drayton Valley to set up their facility, we will work with TTS to access the funding and move the project along as quickly as possible."

Diana McQueen, MLA for Drayton Valley – Calmar, is excited about this funding for Research and Development at the Fibremat Centre in Drayton Valley. "This federal-provincial allocation takes advantage of our region's unique strengths and brings us to the cutting edge of Alberta's plans for a next-generation economy," said Mrs. McQueen. "We are creating new opportunities to strengthen our community and to advance environmentally friendly industries, which is a wise investment on many levels, especially as we work to grow and diversify our economy."

The research and development fibremat plant will research the use of natural resources from the forest and agricultural sectors to produce a variety of bioproducts including flooring, insulation, construction materials, automobile interior parts, and other bio-geotextiles.

This fibremat plant has the opportunity to bring Drayton Valley forward as a principal player in the bio-industry for North America as a unique product development centre.

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